Property Tax on Central Government Assets

683. SHRI PRASANTA CHATTERJEE: Will the MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government, at one point of time, agreed to move in the direction of allowing the local bodies to impose property taxes on Central Government assets and properties; and

(b) if so, what is the latest position in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Question does not arise in view of reply to part **(a).**

Master Plan-2021 for Delhi

684. SHRIMATI PREMA CARIAPPA: Will the MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Delhi Development Authority (DDA) is planning to come out with a Master Plan-2021 for the National Capital Territory of Delhi;

(b) if so, the salient features of the proposed plan and by when it is likely to come in force;

(c) whether Government have decided to include unauthorised colonies in the proposed Master Plan and if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the reasons for the delay in regularising these colonies?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) to (d) Yes, Sir, The Delhi Development Authority (DDA) has initiated the process of revising the Master Plan for Delhi-2001 with a perspective up to the year 2021. In order to look into the increased demand for physical and social infrastructure, shelter, traffic and transportation, trade and commerce, industry, etc., 12 Sub-Groups have been constituted with representatives of concerned departments of National Capital Territory of Delhi, academic institutions, non-government organizations and local bodies. Drafting of Master Plan is a major exercise which requires extensive discussions with Stakeholders, user agencies and hence takes time for its finalization. The Central Government has also issued broad guidelines to DDA to facilitate preparation of Master Plan for Delhi-2021. The guidelines suggests effective incorporation of unauthorized colonies in the mainstream of urban development.

For regularization of unauthorized colonies in Delhi, Government had, prepared guidelines and filed the same in Delhi High Court in CWP No. 4771/93 titled Common Cause (Regd.) Society *Vs.* Union of India & Others. The Hon'ble Court in its order dated 27.2.2001 had directed the Government to notify the colonies which could be regularised in terms of the said guidelines. It was also indicated that till modalities in terms of the guidelines are worked out, interim orders passed earlier restraining the Government from regularizing any unauthorized colony shall be operative. The Government has revised the guidelines in February, 2004. The revised guidelines have been issued to Government of NCT of Delhi, DDA, MCD and NDMC. The Government of NCT of Delhi has been requested to take steps for drawing a list of unauthorized colonies, which conforms to the revised gudelines. A Working Group has also been set up to work out modalities for regularization.

Cost of Metro Railway

685. SHRI SHAHID SIDDIQUI: Will the MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the cost of Metro Railway line from Delhi to the surrounding States will have to be borne by the respective State Governments; and

(b) whether it is not the responsibility of his Ministry to decongest highly populated cities like Delhi by providing Metro Rail access to the surrounding townships?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) and (b) There is no proposal at present for extension of Metro Railway line beyond the territorial limits of Delhi. However, to improve connectivity in the National Capital Region areas, a proposal for Integrated Rail-cum-Bus Transit (IRBT) System to towns in the States surrounding Delhi has been mooted by National Capital Regions Planning Board.